

Letters From Russia.

Knowing that you are anxious to hear authentic news from Russia, and are willing to publish same in your weekly, I wish to state that in my possession are a few letters from Moscow of recent date (July, 1920).

One of them is written by the wife of a former manufacturer, now employed in his plant as a worker. She says in part:

"We have suffered a great deal, and are still lacking many comforts, but we are nevertheless happy. We glory in the thought that we are living in a period in which such great things are transpiring. The present may have many negative features, but we are sure of positive gains in the future. Yes, it seems all so strange, like a tale from the Thousand-And-One-Nights. Yet it is true. All are now equal in our country."

Considering that the writer of the above words was, before the proletarian revolution bitterly opposed to the workers' cause, we must conclude that at least a portion of the bourgeoisie became imbued with the ideology of the Communists, and now share their enthusiastic hopes for a great future of the Communist State.

In another letter, a woman of the intellectual class tells of her search for a position as a librarian. She says:

"I came to Moscow a couple of days ago. I registered in the Labor Bureau, and was offered a few positions. I have not made my selection yet, but I am deliberating on the merits of the offers. When I shall have chosen my place of work, I intend to bring my belongings and settle in Moscow for good."

This description of the process of obtaining employment in Russia impresses one very favorably. The labor bureaus are evidently national employment offices keeping accurate records of the supply and demand of labor.

The reports of the "militarization" and "enslavement" of labor so often appearing in the capitalist press may be safely classed with the rest of the anti-Bolshevist propaganda of the bought—and—paid—for newspaper agents. It is also quite certain that our native as well as foreign liberals shed useless tears and break their tender hearts, bemoaning the lack of democracy in the Workers Republic of Russia.

S. Salkover.

Industrial Unionism in England.

By Colonna.

Industrial unionism in England may be described as a raw organization with a future. Examples of the weakness of purpose, and individuality of action have been adequately provided by the recent strikes.

England is in the unfortunate position of having sometimes as many as a dozen different unions represented in one large factory—and, contrary to promises, these unions do not support each other.

The attempted strike of the miners supports this statement. The British public, hypnotized by their Labour M. P.'s, and chloroformed by the press, are siding with the Lloyd George faction—in a word, they are begging permission to pay an extra \$3 per week for their coal.

Huge combines are now in process of formation—some are already a fact, although they may not be so obvious as those of the United States.

Spasmodic strikes are the order of the day. This in itself is a good sign, but the mere fact that most of these strikes are only brought about by one individual union at a time proves that unionism is far from its goal.—Today it is the police, to-morrow the tram drivers, the next day the miners but never all together, never any really large section.

On the other hand, the organizations of the middle classes are more or less united. "Freedom" leagues and "peoples" leagues, to put down Bolshevism are springing up all over the country.

Unfortunately, the Communist organizations (rather numerous in England, but not noted for their size or work) have not quite grasped the fact that industrial organization is necessary. Until they do, no progress can be made, unless it is done **outside** these parties.

Industry is imprisoned in the shell of bourgeois rule. Until the moment, which will undoubtedly come in which realization of the inadequacy of purely political agitation thoroughly forces its way into the understanding of the workers arrives nothing but failure can attend the efforts of the class-conscious section of the workers, but, when that is come, then a new world will be opened up to the proletarian, a world in which all are free, and where parasites are not.